Today's News - Tuesday, May 15, 2007

U.K. politics and eco-towns: plans to build. – But is it "a small-minded approach to housing?" – Find out at a conference that explores whether Britain is all planned out. – City Debates in Beirut take on rebuilding efforts. – Homeland security and the impact on architecture and urban design. – Two roads to brownfield developments in Canada: time or money. – Abu Dhabi taking a considered approach to fast-paced development. – Is "dynamic architecture" in Dubai a new concept in design or just a gimmick? – The debate over the fate of Boston's City Hall is not just about the building. – Hits and misses: a look at past visions of houses of the future. – Better workplace design leads to better work. – China takes on copycat architects. – It was a great year for the little guys in Australia's Interior Design Awards. – A Bauhaus exhibit in Dessau offers "ideas that could prove just as vital in our own time." – Breuer celebrated in Budapest. – Students who will be making real-life cities of tomorrow meet today's sci-fi city builders at the Pasadena Art Center College of Design. – "New York Rises: Photographs by Eugene de Salignac" documents the birth of the city's skyline.

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New eco-towns to ease house crisis: Chancellor [Gordon Brown] promises 100.000 low-emission homes to trump Cameron's green credentials- Guardian (UK)

Come, friendly bombs, fall on Brown's eco-towns: With his plans to build zero-carbon homes in zero-car suburbs, Gordon Brown is building on the Blairites' small-minded approach to housing...the green handmade house...have come to dominate both the incompetent actions of a restless state and the popular imagination of the British. By James Woudhuysen [links]- Spiked (UK)

Conference: All Planned Out? The Worldwide Impact of the British Town and Country Planning System. London, May 18-19- audacity.org (UK)

Deconstructing reconstruction: City Debates holds multidisiplinary seminars on effort to rebuild in wake of 2006 war...American University of Beirut's graduate programs in urban planning and policy and urban design...takes up issues of urban development.-Daily Star (Lebanon)

Against All Vulnerabilities: Inside America's Security Strategies: Former White House Counterterrorism Advisor Richard A. Clarke discusses the war on terror and homeland security – and the impact on architecture and urban design. By Barbara A. Nadel, FAIA- Buildings.com

Time (or money) heals urban wounds: For brownfields, there are two strategies: remediation or risk management...important terms in brownfield development throughout Canada.- Globe and Mail (Canada)

Waking up the sleeping giant: Development in Abu Dhabi may have got off to a slower start than in Dubai, but its approach so far has been mindful of some of the issues that can arise from fast-paced construction, such as problems with infrastructure, as well as of sustainability...- ArabianBusiness.com

Time for dynamic architecture? ...a new concept in design, or is it all just a gimmick? The phrase 'dynamic architecture' is being mentioned more frequently, suggesting that Dubai is a melting pot of innovation rather than a sterile construction environment. — David Fisher/Rotating Tower Technology, Atkins; Woods Bagot- ArabianBusiness.com

Clean slate: The debate over what to do about Boston's City Hall is missing the point: it's not about a building, it's about reimagining the heart of the city, its connections to the past, and its possibilities for the future. By George Thrush -- Kallmann, McKinnell & Knowles (1969)- Boston Globe

Castles in the Air: For a century, architects have speculated about the house of tomorrow. Where did they go wrong? A look back at past houses of the future shows some inspiring ideas, some surprisingly accurate predictions — and many that were off the mark. — Le Corbusier; George and William Keck; Alison and Peter Smithson; Buckminster Fuller; House_n Research/MIT- Wall Street Journal

Better work by design: the workplace environment: A badly designed, poorly organised work environment is detrimental to productivity and health. -- Gensler; Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE); AMA Alexi Marmot Associates; Usable Buildings Trust [links]- Personnel Today magazine (UK)

China Cracks Down on Copycat Architects: ...government is allowing a foreign firm to sue a Chinese business... -- Woodhead International; 5+1 Werkhart International; Perkins Eastman- Architectural Record

Eve of a new dawn for Dusk: This year's Interior Design Awards have given a fillip to some young designers who have been recognised for their fresh approach...it was a great year for the little guys... -- DireTribe; Ryan Russell; David Hicks; - The Age (Australia)

The iMac as Bauhaus's progeny: What can an arts movement that shaped the machine-age 20th century offer to the high-tech 21st? Ideas that could prove just as vital in our own time..."Bauhaus Dessau: Workshop of Modernism"...once-revolutionary buildings...that defined one of the great architecture and design movements of our

time.- Toronto Star

<u>The creator of modern furniture design: "Marcel Breuer - Design and Architecture" at the Ludwig Museum</u>-The Budapest Times

Sci-Fi Mecca: It's Where Fantasy Meets Architecture: If architects can be inspired by The Matrix, then it should come as no surprise that conceptual artists get off on real-life architecture. -- Frank Gehry, I.M. Pei [slide show essay]- Wired

Growing the big apple: As New York City soared into the sky in the early 20th century, Eugene de Salignac documented its progress in thousands of extraordinary photographs..."New York Rises: Photographs by Eugene de Salignac"- The Times (UK)

Under Construction: Zaha Hadid Architects: Cagliari Contemporary Arts Centre, Cagliari, Italy

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